

Sent: Friday, July 18, 2014

Why not fix up the former nursing home at 36th and Colby and have dormitory type rooms with beds and a community shower on each floor staffed with counselors and may be a kitchen for a hot breakfast.

Sent: Friday, July 18, 2014

Thank you for starting a task force. We have been very concerned about the drug use in Clark Park. Also, why are people allowed to sleep there overnight? What about sanitation? Our High School is right next door. Isn't there supposed to be a drug free zone? I have quit going to our library because at times there are 10 people at the front door loitering who aren't very hospitable. We have been told not to go the transit station because of the drug traffickers that hang out there too. Can we look at implementing the Arlington Codes that were announced in the Everett Herald this week 7-17-14. If other cities start cracking down before we do, won't they come to our city and add to the problems here? Thank you once again for hearing our concerns!

Sent: July 15, 2014

Hi City of E. I have two requests: 1) I would like to receive emails regarding the upcoming CSI meetings. 2) Would you please send me the list of all Task Force members and the "agenda" for the first meeting on July 24th? Thanks.

Sent: Monday, July 21, 2014 11:52 AM

I recently moved out of state after living in Everett, WA for 15 years. I have observed that there is a huge problem with drug and alcohol addiction in Everett and most of these addicted citizens live on the streets. I know several of them because there was a drug house on my street and when it was finally shut down most of these kids took to the streets. Most of them have at some point be charged with crimes to support their drug addiction. This is my question: When these addicts go to jail they are usually only there 2-3 days and then back out on the streets to repeat their criminal activity. Why does not the criminal justice system give them stiffer penalties and also order them to drug treatment or stay in jail? From my observation most of the homeless problem in Everett is due to drug addiction, specifically heroin and meth. The police must get frustrated to do their job in arresting the addicts only to have them back on the streets again and continuing in their life of crime.

Sent: July 18, 2014

Subject: Non-profits and changing the way they see how to help

Body: My neighbors on Lombard met with Officer Jessup and Chief Templeman last evening and I sat in to listen. One thing that resonated was Chief Templeman's comments that the police, etc. have to do things differently. It is hugely different than 20 years ago when he started with the EPD. Keeping that in mind, I believe if we look at how non-profits "help" the homeless, lower income, chronic druggie and alcoholics; we can see that they, as well, need to rethink how they "help". I attend Northshore Christian Church on 23rd in Everett. We have had a financial ministry to help with food baskets and some finances. I worked with this group back in the late 1990's. At that time, non-profits (not our church) were giving vouchers

to these people to live at one of these problem hotel/motels. Back 15 - 20 years ago this might have been a good short-term housing situation. As the Chief told us, this is a different time and things need to be done differently. And that means, neighbors (or in my case the NW Neighborhood) needs to approach this differently. Instead of ridding ourselves of the problem, which goes into another neighborhood or town, we should look to the owner(s) of our problem motel(s) and to the non-profit who are in our neighborhoods and town, and partner with them to make changes. The non-profits could look into a better way to house people instead of giving out vouchers for them to live in detestable temporary housing. Usually the goal of the VOA, the Salvation Army, or Compass is to get people on their feet to live productive lives(right?). Why not work together and provide housing (i.e. Housing Hope) that these non-profits create new and a way to work with the police, neighbors and social services? Yes, it costs money, but all of these non-profits work to get money and provide the services they give. Maybe it is time to "change and rethink" how to spend money for ways to help people become productive instead of what they do now which is not working anymore. Officer Jessup and LT. Bosman attended the seminar in California last year where a town is working with the courts, social services, etc. to get the homeless, chronic alcoholics, druggies, etc. off the streets and productive. It takes money and we need to figure out how to get that money. I am one neighborhood chair who would help, volunteer, and do whatever I can to help with change and to encourage other neighbors to help too. With National Night Out coming up, my thought since our neighborhood is not having an event, at first, was to get a bunch of neighbors together and picket this problem area (Lombard/Broadway & 13th) on Aug 5th, but that is an old way of thinking! All that would do is cause more disillusion and be totally non-productive. My next step is to talk to Officer and see what we can do positively and work with this owner, if at all possible.

Sent: July 22, 2014

Hello. I am a 12 year resident of S. 3rd Ave in Lowell, and a social services case manager by trade. I work in Public Health. I am also a church member at Everett First Covenant on Evergreen way. We serve a weekly community meal for the homeless in the area of 41st street and beyond. As a community social service worker I am very familiar with the geographic map of social service resources in this community and the relationship between homeless and/or loitering and proximity of these resources (i.e.: missions and shelters, mental health facilities, low income housing and low quality housing, etc.) I further acknowledge the mental health, housing, substance abuse, domestic violence, and financial resources are lacking in our community, as they are in every community. Acknowledging all of this, I have a single concern to highlight today. The concern is this: It cannot be the responsibility of any charitable, private, not for profit, volunteer or religious entity to be the safety net for these people. It cannot be the responsibility of any single government agency, program, or mandate to address these needs. The problem is system wide, so must be the solution! The grave and extensive needs of vulnerable citizens cannot be addressed by a system that depends on separate entities, be they private or public, being motivated to fill the needs. The rules and limitations about who to serve does not reduce the amount of people needing help. These people are still there. Lets get real in Everett and take a stand to prioritize REAL help. Harm reduction care to begin and preventive care for our vulnerable citizens. Specifically: Addicted persons who show up drunk at the

missions or don't show up at all because they know they can't be drunk there. Bruised and battered addicts hanging out in or just outside of grocery store parking lots begging for money. Sexual predators and other convicted felons who cannot find housing. Would you rather have these people walking down my street unidentified? Example: A friend whose husband is a firefighter pointed out that they have received 911 calls multiple times per day to pick up the same person. They respond by mandate, assess that yes indeed he's drunk, drop him at the door of the emergency room, where he walks away, falls over, and other witness calls 911 again. Meanwhile the detox beds at Evergreen Manor get closed down due to lack of funding. A few hundred dollars a day to maintain a detox bed versus untold thousands in tax dollars to respond to multiple 911 calls? Example: The needle exchange for injection drug users is located in the back parking lot of Pacific Treatment Alternatives. I park my car on the curb on Pacific Avenue every Friday morning, and I am terrified that I will step on a dirty hypodermic needle that someone has discarded into the grass between the street and the curb. Where are they supposed to go to do their drugs safely? Example: massive numbers of comments in last week's Herald article about sex offender housing and Marysville's efforts to thwart it. My examples are a tiny representation of the existing problems we face. I could give a hundred more examples. My point is that we are spending the money anyway. The problem is that we all pretend we are separate and fight for our own "allocations." The allocation of police, criminal justice, and emergency response dollars versus preventive and harm reduction care dollars. And as evidenced throughout all levels of our US society, those with the most resources are exponentially more able to access even MORE resources. Meanwhile the poorest of the poor walk down the street in front of my house each day with their black bag of alcohol, heading from their meal at the mission, or panhandling 41st street, to their sleeping spot in the woods near the railroad tracks between 41st to 52nd street. Let's get real in Everett, take a stand and start to really address the root of the problem. Public funding of harm reduction and preventive care, please.

Sent: July 23, 2014

I have worked at Burketts on Colby for 5 years. This past year I have been much more concerned about safety issues. I have to cross the street to go to a parking lot at the end of the day. When it is not daylight savings it can be nerve wracking and scary. I have had street people shout out, walk towards my car, ask for handouts as I am getting in my car. So far all of these situations have been harmless but as fall approaches I am considering my options. One is to park my car in front of the store 90 minutes before closing but sometimes I am in the store by myself so I can't always leave to do this. It would be helpful to have a bicycle officer at the parking lots around town between 5-6:30 when most employees are headed to their cars. The people seem to be coming from the church on Hoyt and 26th or west of there. Some may think it is the tavern a few doors down from Burketts but I sense that those people are pretty harmless. Once in a while a few of them will loiter into the store obviously under the influence of drugs and or alcohol but for the most part they stay out of the store. Another concern I have are a few of the regular street people yelling out or shouting obscenities. This does not make for a comfortable environment for downtown consumers. Thanks for your efforts, things seem to be rapidly deteriorating.

Sent: July 24, 2014

I think that it would be great to have a representative from Washington State Liquor Control Board as a Task Force Member. I believe most of our street problems are related to retail alcohol sales to homeless people under the influence of alcohol. We have Everett area homeless alcoholics that never reach a level of sobriety that would allow them to legally purchase alcohol. Repeat offenders should not be allowed to buy alcohol in the city. Deck of cards approach to alcohol enforcement shared with retail sales people may work. Fine and revoke alcohol sales permits to those who sell to those who are impaired. Thank you.

Sent: July 23, 2014

Looking at this issue and what the free market can provide in the way of permanent solutions for these people; I have an idea and the cash to do it if the City of Everett would permit me to. (zoning and other other such issues) the idea is mini-condominiums; about 200 square feet with 150 square feet of loft space over that. a most floor space would be multifunctional with murphy beds being standard. I believe I could build and sell these for less (monthly) than the rent for just a bedroom.

Sent: July 24, 2014

Subject: has anyone

on this council been homeless and or suffer from mental illness? How does one qualify to decide what to do about. people with mental illness and homelessness?

Sent: July 29, 2014

I attended the first meeting, thank you for making it public. I would like to thank the Mayor for putting this task force together and for everyone that is on the task force for donating their time and making this a priority to our community and for not turning your backs on our brothers and sisters that are most in need.

Sent: July 24, 2014

It would have been helpful at the meeting today to show a slide of the Mayor's mission statement to the audience so we could follow along. Could it be added to this site please? thank you!

Sent: July 24, 2014

I agree (somewhat) with an earlier Herald post that argued for "Homeless Representatives" (as in someone who is actually homeless) being included in these (9) workshops. The idea/concern behind trying to determine/differentiate-between those who are Truly In-Need of Assistance, and those who are SCAMMING the System/Tax Payers reminds me of comments made during the Viet Nam War about identifying the "Enemy" -- many just felt, "Drop the BOMBS and let God sort em out!" Another approach might be to create/appoint a committee of the "Homeless" -- allocate them a FIXED budget, and charge/empower them to identify the "Needy", with the EXPLICIT Goal/Requirement of Reducing the Roll/Number by a mutually agreed upon number each Quarter/Year, or risk losing the funding entirely. In Essence -- charge this segment of society with Policing its Own!

Sent: July 24, 2014

To Whom It May Concern: We saw the Everett Herald Article, dated 07/23/14, entitled "Everett tackling issues of homelessness, loitering," and felt the need to comment. We have noticed an increasing problem with the loitering of the homeless, mentally ill, and other street issues over the last couple of years. Just recently, for the last 2 weeks, we have been dealing with this issue directly as we continue to have the homeless/mentally ill sleeping and making themselves at home on our properties. We are just north of Compass Health on Broadway, and we have been in touch with them as well as the Everett Police regarding these issues. Dealing with these issues continues to take away from our normal businesses and clients, it is very time consuming, and we are beyond frustrated with these issues. We have started to feel as though we are prisoners in our own offices/businesses, and at times, have become fearful to leave or walk near this area alone. We are pleased to see that a task force has been started, but we believe that constructive action needs to be taken. We realize this is not an easy task and that there is no quick and easy solution, but we hope that this is a start as this area of Everett continues to rapidly go downhill.

Sent: July 24, 2014

I read in the newspaper about the task force meetings to address the issue of street problems of the homeless and loitering in the Everett commercial core zones. In recent years this problem has become an epidemic in our area and negatively influences my ability to do business. As these people come into my store they require time and energy away from my customers and work. As they loiter on my property, they frighten customers and I wonder how many of my customers choose not to come back to the store because they feel unsafe in the area. I am frustrated with the problem and feel the city has needed to address it for a long time now. As a very hard working small businessman who has been doing business in Everett since 1979, I am frustrated. Meetings and talking is a start, but constructive action needs to be put in place. Obviously there is not an easy solution, but I will look forward to seeing the plan the task force initiates to manage this issue.

Comment from July 24th, 2014 meeting

The article in the Everett Tribune (free newspaper) where I first found out about the task force said Everett had the "worst crime" compared to similar cities. Do they mean property crime, felonies or what? Also what cities-in WA, in the US, in the world? What's a comparable city- Billings MT (same size) Pensacola FL (navy town)?

Comment from July 24th, 2014 meeting

I know that this is a difficult topic, but I'm sure others are thinking about if we need to change our involuntary commitment laws. I realize that these are state laws, outside of the scope of a city task force, but still. I certainly appreciate why involuntary mental health commitment was made more difficult in the 60's and 70's. People were understandably concerned about abuses. But I understand that Arizona changed their laws and it helped the quality of life there. In high profile cases in Seattle (Café Racer, SPU) we see people who should have been involuntarily

committed but weren't. Sometimes families even were frustrated by it. To put it bluntly, Everett may be due for a serious episode involving a seriously mentally ill person.

Comment from July 24th, 2014 meeting

Q: Why do homeless teens can only stay in a shelter for 21 days?

Comment: I believe that having representation of present or past homeless folks on this task team is very important. It should include homeless men, women, mothers with kids and father and mother families, vets and teens or kids. So you get input from a full sample of types of homelessness. This could be just one time visits, but you all hear the real stories from them.

Comment from July 24th, 2014 meeting

I didn't hear specifically (as per the agenda) if and/or how Everett is unique. The data was covered, but I didn't get a good answer to this very important question.

Comment from July 24th, 2014 meeting

About time that City is addressing these issues!

Physical setup of room-backs of task force members to general public-we didn't know who is speaking and members should also be speaking to general public as well as each other-change physical set-up of room? What are changes in racial/cultural/ethnic/ citizens

All members of the task force are either business owners or reps of service providers-no members of general public. Why?

Data of free and reduces breakfast and lunch program of Everett school district-over 10 years?

Sent: Friday, July 25, 2014

Respectfully, if you do want me to serve on the committee then you have made a mistake.

" Lets have a homeless committee and not invite any one from the homeless community." LOL

I recall when the mayor played homeless and slept in his car but was afraid to get of the car. A group of angry homeless Everett citizens wanted to surround the mayor's house and demand to be arrested. It was then as I say now you are making a mistake.

If you do not have a representative from the homeless community on the homeless committee it is not a homeless task force call it what it is - homeless service providers and government officials talking about what should be done with the homeless and under resourced task force.

Why represent the homeless if you silence their voices ?

Sent: August 5th 2014

When the church feeding programs are discussed, I would like to know what date that is. Also I would like to make a comment from the Spirit of Grace United Methodist Church "our feeding program was on Wed. eve and is temporarily stopped, all the people that attended, are not homeless, just have to use their resources for things other than food. In our program, we ate with the guests and became part of their social circle. An example I took one fellow to the

medical appointment where he needed driver to take him home and I attended a memorial for another client upon her death. When I see these people in the community outside of the church setting, they acknowledge our friendship

Comment from August 7, 2014 meeting

Those number on drug crimes are pure baloney. I see 30 offenses in my friend back yard this YTD. I would like to state this is so empty. You seek to increase funding but if you solve the problem you're out of a job.

Comment from August 7, 2014 meeting

Please quit impounding vehicles. Thank You.

Comment from August 7 2014 meeting

Here is the exact quote from the Everett Tribune that I mentioned at the last meeting. "(Brenda) Stonecipher cited a study that shows Everett has the highest crime rate per 1,000 population of any comparable city. Oddly, the same study shows Everett also has the largest Police force by population. article by Natalie Covate "Snohomish Tribune" July 16, 2014. What did they mean by "comparable"?

Comment from August 7, 2014 meeting

Someone commented on the possibility of using the old nursing home at 36th and Hoyt for a shelter. I don't know how sound this building is structurally, seismically, etc. but when you get close and peer inside, (as I have) you see that it's been vacant so long that it seems to be in pretty poor condition. When it first became vacant, a use like this might have been feasible, but probably at this point, tearing it down is probably best.

Comment from August 7, 2014 meeting.

A shipping box is good you stack 10 high a honey bucket you have a home.
All day live

Sent: Aug 8, 2014

As someone who used to stay at the mission here in Everett, as well as making donations there periodically, I can tell you that this problem has increased, both in number of people affected as well as severity of problems (and the scope of each one - it affects us all, in one way or another). There is no "one-size-fits-all" answer to this and I am glad that it is being viewed by multiple citizens/volunteers who all have different outlooks and can provide a multitude of feedback and suggestions. E-mail me if you want more information from someone who can truly say "been there, done that".

Sent: August 21 2014

I live 1/2 block from S.A. Last week walked into our alley as a man was urinating on our building...why was he in the area? Free food. We need help with all the free food hand outs in the area. this is not the first time this has happened. By the time I call 911 and the police arrive

everyone has scattered. I also would like more published information on how the public can make comments for the task force to consider.

Comment from August 21 2014 Community Streets Initiative Task Force Meeting:

This is a wonderful opportunity for our city! Is there a way to estimate the number of “drug/alcohol” addictions that have a basis in mental illness. I assume it’s high and wonder if this would/does impact the approach to treatment.

Where does the impression of streets being unsafe come from? Couldn’t see all the statistics but the top few were not bodily harm as I remember. Then how do we change the perception? Based on what I’ve heard at the meetings I worry that some of the most prominent “faces” of Everett are quite negative.

Comment from August 21 2014 Meeting:

I would like a laundry facility for the homeless to do laundry. It would cut down on all the clothing that is given out

Sent September 3, 2014

She manages the Cascadian apartments on Hewitt, and sees issues daily with garbage along the rail lines, human waste behind their dumpsters, trash from homeless who dumpster dive, and sees people sleeping on bridge ledges along railroad. She has been attending the Community Streets Initiative meetings and is aware of the efforts underway. She wants these photos to be used to call attention to her concerns and to see if city can respond to these particular issues.

She shared some of this info with Spring Wathen, EPD Code Enforcement. She has spoken with someone from BNSF and was told the area under bridges is responsibility of the city to handle and that steel plates could be added to prevent camping under the bridge.

Comment from September 4th Meeting

This is all informative and I wonder how informative it is to the committee.

Comment from September 4th Meeting

Re: Coordinated entry. What happens to folks who have worked a meaningful program and has “jumped through the hoops” and now find that their promised housing is being given to someone who is needier-I’m thinking of 1 year to 18 month programs and then having no place to go?

Comment from September 4th Meeting

Earlier I mentioned a need to do more involuntary commitments of mental patients. Since then I have found out that there is a shortage of mental institution beds in WA. I did not know this. If churches with feeding programs are a problem on Colby Ave it seems that there is lots of commercial real estate available in downtown Everett that aren’t on Hewitt or Colby. The presenter that talk about Cocoon House mentioned that the “teenage brain” doesn’t fully

develop until age 25. I know that a lot of people operate from this premise but it may not be true. There is a book about this called Teen 2.0. This isn't my idea-and Everett PD officer mentioned it at a neighborhood meeting-reinstitute the drunk tank for public inebriates.

Comment from September 4th Meeting

I think that Everett may want to consider building a "drunk dorm" as Seattle has at 1811 Yale Ave. I normally do not support "harm reduction" approaches, but do support this. The drunk dorms seem to work. Residents may still seek out alcohol treatment and are even encouraged to do so. They just aren't pressured and sobriety isn't made a condition. Alcohol is a legal substance, after all. For a description of the drunk dorms see House of Hope and Fear by Audrey Young M.D. I think we should consider a hygiene center like the urban rest stop in Seattle. There's plenty of vacant real estate available. A non-profit can run it.

Sent: September 9, 2014

Sent: September 9, 2014

Body: My name is Chelsea, I am a student at Trinity Lutheran College. The "homeless" who live in Everett are the reason that I choose to live in Everett. I work with these people a minimum of 20 hrs a week. I'm not here to offer the city a solution to this problem. The reason I write is to simply remind the city that they are people and that they mean something to someone. They are somebody's brother, somebody's mom, somebody's child. What kind of care would you want for your son or daughter? We have to remember that they are made of the same things we are. They have muscles, bones and even a heart! It is only their brain that differs from us and in all reality we cannot place all the blame on them for that. To the city I may be viewed as only "one person". But to somebody who has nobody "one person" is all it takes to impact their life. If you will not give them a chance, then give me one. I have been here only 6 months and I have had great results. I know that what I am doing is having a lasting impact. They dream of the day that somebody "normal" says hello to them and recognizes them as true "human being". Whatever you decide, please just keep this in mind. They matter to me.

Sent: September 6, 2014

I have lived in downtown Everett at the Bayside Condominiums for almost 5 years and am a soon-to-be-retired Lutheran pastor. I love Everett and what it is striving to become. I believe it is possible and necessary to have a downtown core that is attractive for new condo/apartment dwellers and retailers AND welcoming to all people within the limits of the law. I like the slogan put forward by Experience Everett - sophisticated. That's why I moved to downtown Everett. I do not fear the homeless on the street or in the library. I support services for the homeless including increasing the number of low-income housing options downtown. I wish the scope of Compass Housing Alliance in King County extended to Snohomish County. They are definitely an agency the non-profits and faith communities of Everett should consult with about low income housing for singles and families. I support a active and friendly police presence downtown and whatever rules the library needs to out in place that might limit but not prevent library usage by the homeless. If Everett chooses to go the route of essentially criminalizing homelessness and poverty in its downtown core, it will not only sadden me but it will also affect the very

lifestyle that I came here to find. Let's not think of this as a zero sum game but as an opportunity to creatively work together for the benefit of our city and all its residents.

Sent September 3, 2014

I have been working in downtown Everett for almost 5 years and have noticed a marked increase in panhandlers, homelessness and questionable activities. Parking garages around town are scary at best. Working late or coming to work early can mean stepping over people sleeping in the stair wells and doorways. Not a comfortable or safe environment. I am regularly approached by panhandlers/beggars. My car has been broken into and vandalized multiple times in parking garages and lots.

Sent: September 8, 2014

There is a need for increased police presence walking or on bikes in the downtown core. the elevators at the library are favorite hangouts for homeless and it's quite scary to wait for the elevator with a group of people sitting on the concrete floor staring at you.

Comment from September 18, 2014 Meeting

Recommend City sponsored universal hub providing at least one if not two meals daily for all individuals meeting attendance rules. This facility should also provide intake services for needs such as referral for housing assistance, educational opportunities, job location, medical assistance. In Everett this would need to be available to many of these services by being accessible to transportation. The main two locations that come to mind would be close to our North college/medical complexes or close to Everett Station. The north location could provide opportunities for student or faculty volunteers attending classes in related disciplines to assist in operations of the center. Clients participating in counseling intake could be provided free transit permits to their home or referred services.

Funding as well as volunteers could be provided from multiple affected stakeholders (numerous of which are possibly participating in these deliberations). This would provide a consolidated collaboration to hopefully have largely one point starting access to many of the individuals in the target populations while ensuring a single point of nourishment.

Sent: September 21, 2014

I am concerned about people who have no place to sleep, no regular source of food or water, no restroom facilities. To be homeless is traumatic, stressful, unhealthy and unsafe. I hope we can find solutions to house people. Get them physical and mental health services. The numbers are growing and it is affecting citizens in the Everett area and other cities as well.

Sent: September 23, 2014

I feel panhandlers are different (from the majority of homeless) and the more people give them \$\$, the longer they stay. I suggest a city ordinance making it illegal to panhandle within city limits, as well as a PR campaign/billboards (done in other cities) called "Keep the Change" informing folks that it's best to give to a registered local charity.

Sent September 29, 2014

MJ and I are concerned about subject. We are concerned that the task force will not deal with the problem but work to move it out of their site - maybe within a neighborhood. We have expressed this to Mayor Ray, But no response yet. We think that instead of having public hearing at Everett Station, you should be coming to neighborhood meeting and work with them to address the problem. The people handing out the drug substitute should be responsible for these people gathering and should find ways to address the problem of loitering. We had the same issues with a church feeding program and got them to drop the program because they were not willing to manage the crowds before or after the meals. We hope that the task force to be conscious of Everett's neighborhoods when they start developing their plans

Sent: September 30, 2014

I appreciate this task force hosted a public comment session. I believe it is important that one be held the week prior to the final meeting and final recommendations so an assessment from the public can be aired

Sent: September 30, 2014

Karen has done a terrific job reminding members that crime, the homeless citizens, and mental illness are not necessarily related to the issues being studied. Chief Templeman spoke about 41 calls per year in the study area being related to mental illness and the perception that it's much higher. While there's no question that this must be addressed before it gets worst, and beyond manageable. my perception is that it is much greater. To hear some people talk, 50% of our police calls are related to mental illness. We've pressed the panic button for something that is not the real problem. The real problem is the prejudice that leads to the belief that mental illness is the culprit. If Chief Templeman's number of 41 is near the mark, the issue is prejudice where there should be none. Education here might dispel the method of hiding the problem by blaming something that isn't true. 41 calls is less than one a week. Educate the citizens to the real problem.

Sent: September 30, 2014

Jan Marie and RaeLee,

Thank you for your patience in waiting for a proper response to your request as to what you could do through Edmonds Community College [EdCC] to aid the homeless and under resourced in our community. Respectfully you have already done much by simply demonstrating your willingness to help another.

The response to a person in need is actually customized by the responder's degree of commitment and the measure of resources that individual has. In this regard I will address a response customized for RaeLee.

You may measure what you can do in accord with the priorities in life. Value your education. With an education you can by a huge catalytic factors multiple the effectiveness and results of your willingness to be a caring person on this planet.

You can volunteer at homeless functions and be involved in food collections. However as worthy as those services are you may be able to do some things uniquely that no one else could

achieve.

You could codify the response of the Girl Scouts of America's response to homeless and poverty. That is to say research all the ways and potential ways this splendid organization can and does help these people in need. When you have secured an understanding of these activities share your research in the appropriate communication service with in the structure of the Girl Scouts be that a web site and / or a magazine etc.

Girl Scouts[G.S.] volunteer at meals and organize food drives. They have too have a unique or customized response in this area. One G.S. troop in the area has made benches for an outdoor community meal held in the parking lot at a church just down the street from where you live. Another area troop made homemade greeting cards for an outreach [www.freelettershome.com] where the homeless and under resourced are given these cards with stamped envelopes in an attempt for the homeless and under resourced can send the cards to friends and family. I handed one of these home made birthday cards to a homeless man who just started to cry saying, "I had nothing to send my daughter for birthday now she will get this card and know that I will always care for her."

Another project unique to your situation is develop a scholarship for students who have suffered homelessness in their lives. You may choose to work through the Phi Theta Kappa honor society at EdCC and may consider a partnership with the sister chapter at Everett Community College [EvCC]. The scholarship fund is to honor the legacy of Edmonds Community College professor Paull Shin. Mr. Shin himself was homeless in Korea, after the Korean War and he was adopted by an American family. Mr. Shin's life journey can be measured far beyond his academic achievements in moving from a GED to a Ph.D. His footsteps are a map for young people such as yourself to follow.

A scholarship can be established by securing a stationary body of money invested to yield a yearly return designated to be given away for a students in financial need. That fund is monitored by a nonprofit such a foundation at EvCC, EdCC or an organization such as the Everett Foundation.

I would like to see EvCC involved as well for several reasons. Such a strategy would broaden the donor and recipient base of the effort and respectfully may help develop Mr. Shin's intention as a Washington State senator to help the homeless and under resourced with a project birthed in Everett he wished to develop into a state wide, state run program - the Food Page [www.foodpageofsnoco.org which is momentarily down due to technical issues]] this lists food security information about food banks, outreach community meals and similar free food options including community farms and neighborhood.

It was in my writing to Senator Paull Shin about the homeless situation in Everett that motivated to introduce a Food Page bill in the Washington State Senate. Unfortunately Mr. Shin's health forced him to retire before this bill was introduced. Washington State Senator Nick Harper from Everett was to co-sponsor the bill. Unfortunately Mr. Harper resigned his position before his commitment brought forth legislation.

It was my intention to discuss the scholarship concept with Mr. Shin in the time we would have spent together in developing the Food Page project. In writing Senator Shin, I shared just a few homeless stories from the streets of Everett. All dramatic and all honest. However it was in the story of a ten year homeless girl I saw Paull Shin's life and the scholarship fund. Her name is Bella.

A couple years ago she and her two parents spent the summer homeless sleeping on the high school property of a school in Everett. Her parents who are extremely loving and caring parents both lost their jobs due to the economy. Her father is an American hero. He has fourteen year military record; he was shot six times, knifed twice and suffered a head injury for this country.

During her homeless summer - a lost childhood summer I found two pocket calculators in an Everett dumpster. I gave the calculators to Bella who delighted in receiving them because it enabled her to study her multiplication and division tables with a friend. Bella is an outstanding student in school and would be a very worthy recipient of a Paull Shin scholarship.

If the plans for the scholarship mature I would like Bella to announce the scholarship as mayor of Everett. Current Everett mayor Ray Stephenson recently spent a night sleeping in his car as a homeless person. We in the homeless community in response would like to send one of our own to be an honorary mayor for a day. We choose Bella for that honor and responsibility. Bella will hopefully announce the scholarship fund and potentially two other major projects developed by the homeless and under resourced for the homeless and under resourced. The annual count of the homeless, a day usually in the first part of the year will be good time for Bella to be mayor.

To get the potential scholarship plan in motion people are receiving this e-mail who can make the scholarship happen. Some will receive this who are in government services, social services, homeless review boards, food banks, outreach community meals services, educators, and activists in nonprofit sectors. Some will receive blind copies, others will not. All are asked to share this e-mail as appropriate.

Sent: September 30, 2014

Senator McCoy and Representative Sells,

In the summer of 2013 in an e-mail I brought to your attention a situation in which a woman told me the story of her involvement with the development of a bill regarding child-sex slavery trade. I will refer to this woman as G.

G was a primary care giver to a young teen-age girl, her granddaughter. The young girl was abducted and forced into sex slavery. The young girl managed to escape. The FBI prosecuted the case with the promise of helping the distressed family. The case was successfully prosecuted. The attention focused on the issue caught the attention of the Washington State Legislature. Again the family cooperated. Legislation was passed. No help was given the family. G became homeless.

I meet G at Project Homeless Connect [PHC] in 2013 in Everett. Her story to me seemed credible as she was showing me on her phone various text documents tied to the situation such as the copy of the Washington State law. G and I had only a short period of together. I was concerned about her present situation. She was then off the streets, living in Everett, looking for work and taking advantage of the PHC opportunities. Her attempts to get false teeth were denied by the government. The teeth would help her secure employment as a receptionist - a previous line of employment. If this situation is accurate it is my hope that this women's case be reviewed.

It was my intention to have the Washington State Legislature investigate this situation as the plans of the Food Page legislation developed under Senator Paull Shin and Senator Nick

Harper's pledged direction. With the resignations of both Shin and Harper the Food Page legislation hit a road block and so did again G's plight.

Again I have not researched this situation as you know I too became homeless as a victim of fraud. And at the time at PHC I was passing out the Food Page in paper version. The Food Page lists dates , times, and locations for outreach community meals and food banks. On that day I passed out over 500 copies of the much needed list. It was rewarding and most difficult at times. As I reported to you no less than twelve women **with** children started to cry when I gave the list and told of pledged legislation developing an accurate food information service. How often have you experienced such tears of gratitude from the people you represent when they hear of impending legislation?

Respectfully, Senator McCoy your recent analysis that a Food Page - or a new state of the art food security information service isn't needed is incorrect. You referenced a satisfaction with a service that no one on the streets or the vast under resourced community is familiar with. Respectfully you also expressed the opinion that the 211 System is adequate and functioning well. This is not the case. The United Way is associated with the 211 System and a much respected United Way vice president told me the 211 system isn't functioning and asked if I wanted to redesign it. Such a task is far beyond me, however such a group as the Gates Foundation could develop both the Food Page and/or the 211 System. Ironically a state employee last summer told me that it would be illegal in the development of a state Food Page legislation to work with the Gates Foundation. That struck me as very odd. You can't you contact area nonprofit experts ?

In summary I can say without a question there is a crisis in food security information in Everett, in the county, in the state and most probably beyond that. It is an easy fix especially with today's new technologies. Broken promises make broken lives. The tears of the women who cried when I handed them a paper copy of the Food Page when I told them of a satisfactory food security information state legislation bears testimony to this truth. Now a year later the broken promise of that legislation has undoubtedly resulted in further broken lives. The unfulfilled promise to G has broken her life.

Respectfully I am humbly only trying to help people. I will do what for you may be illegal, contact the Gates Foundation about a food security information service and related matters. I am confident that when I find caring, intelligent people who are familiar with the issues and technologies, solutions will be developed.

Relative to G's situation I will politely present the situation to the U.S. Department of Justice for review along with protocol suggestions dealing with victims of crimes.

Respectfully, it is I whose promise to the homeless and under resourced was broken due to circumstances beyond my control. A man's character or that of any given social institution is measured by one's ability to keep their word. In retrospect most amazingly to me the Food Page that I have distributed food security information about outreach community meals and food banks that have led thousands to a good and satisfying meal. Most of this was actually done when I was homeless carrying forth these responsibilities out of a back pack. If you think it tough losing your phone imagine losing most everything you own when your back pack is stolen. The Food Page has suffered great setbacks - this was just one of many.

Broken promises can be repaired, and so too, broken lives can be repaired.

P.S. Most of the Food Page information over the last 15 years has been distributed in paper format - handed through social services, churches, government agencies and on the streets of Snohomish County in one on one basis I will work to get the web site up www.foodpageofsnoco.org back up on line. The frustration with modern computer technologies the Gates Foundation will understand as will most who learn that my web designer was a homeless man with alcohol abuse issues who lives under a bridge.

Comment from August 7, 2014 meeting

Those numbers on drug crimes are pure baloney. I see 30 offenses in my friend's back yard this YTD. I would like to state this is so empty. You seek to increase funding but if you solve the problem you're out of a job.

Date: Fri, 5 Sep 2014 09:10:42

Alex,

It was a pleasure talking with you at the Volunteers Of America [VOA] as per conversation the individual who may benefit from the YWCA program you are involved with is Jim Bartlow. I discussed that rewarding potential with Jim who will be getting in touch with you. Literally if you were to walk the streets and community outreach meals you would find dozens of people in interested in your outstanding YWCA programs.

I compliment the Volunteers of America for partnering with the YWCA in arranging to have a representative from the YWCA on location at the VOA to make contact with the under resourced in the community who may and will benefit from your services.

Simply stated there is a huge information gap between the under resourced and the network of sources available to them. This is evident in analysis of food security issues in the area. A single mother with several youngsters is caught shoplifting to feed her family. She was not aware of four food banks within a few blocks from he house. A homeless man suffering from AIDS is turned away from the Men's Mission. He ate only paper from the dumpster for three days not knowing of the community network of meals available in Everett. Countless similar stories define current 211 services a failure.

A couple years ago a vice president of the United Way [UW] had grave concerns over the failed 211 system the United Way Way operates. I was asked to rebuild the 211 system - however such a feat is beyond my limited computer skills. Also at the time, I was homeless living behind a set of garbage cans at an Everett church. My homelessness was caused by becoming a victim of fraud in an international Hurricane Katrina relief project I developed.

I have moved the Food Page, an information service created by the homeless for the homeless and the area's under resourced which lists outreach community meals and food bank info on line after passing out literally thousands of paper copies on the streets shortly after meeting

with the UW vice president. The Food Page is supplied to area churches, social services, government agencies and law enforcement agencies as services the major source of food security information in the greater Everett area.

It is amazing that all of the outreach with food security information through the Food Page over the last 15 years has been achieved by the homeless and under resourced to help themselves. At times when this effort needed funds for paper copies of the Food Page for street distribution the homeless and under resourced collected cans for recycling.

The Jewish proverb as found in the Bible "man is destroyed for lack of knowledge".

Thank you for making information of the YWCA programs available to the public.

Copies of this e-mail are being sent to the Everett mayor, the Everett city and area state legislators. The city officials are reviewing homeless issues and the homeless hope that they are able get one of their own on this committee instead being given two minutes in a public forum which is very intimidating to them, especially if police policy issues are to be discussed.

Working with the under resourced can be very rewarding and very challenging. A challenge before me now is post the Food Page again. I have been working with a homeless alcoholic web designer who is living under a bridge. He intentionally crashed the web to prevent the needy, "from Seattle and California coming to eat the food in Everett at the outreach community meals and to keep government people finding out about the community meals and closing them."

At a time when the homeless and under resourced need a voice, and as they are willing to speak I must admit though our conversation was brief you are one who listens - a true gift to the community.

Email Sent October 13, 2014

Good morning, I am the President of the Secular Humanists of Everett. We are a non-profit, community service organization dedicated to bettering the world through volunteer work devoid of supernatural or religious beliefs. We aim to help the needy, speak out against bigotry, defend the separation of church and state, and promote a positive view of atheists and freethinkers - while providing them a positive community where they may express their views and seek support from like-minded individuals. With that in mind we recently embarked on our own Humanist Helping the Homeless campaign to create backpacks filled with toiletries and other supplies to give to the homeless in our area. While this was a successful campaign and we have enough to make 150 backpacks with plans for many more, we sadly do not have a reasonable and efficient way to distribute them. So we would like to ask this task force for advice and assistance on how/where we could give these to those that need them most.

Sent: October 10, 2014

We hope that the Everett Homeless Task Force was not part of subject decision, but were aware of it.

Sent: October 10, 2014

We hope that the Everett Homeless Task Force was not part of subject decision, but were aware of it.

Regarding: "New Chapter for old library"=The Daily Herald - Fri, 10/10/14

My wife And Myself read this article this AM and it bothered us. We think people should have a help up, however.....

Sounds like our city and county governments are coming up with another costly bandage to solve the homeless offender issue.

The renovation of the Carnegie Library in Everett, which is on the National Register of Historic Places, would be a lot more costly than estimated for another homeless shelter.

The costs are:

1) We would be renovating a building on the Natl Register of Historic places. Doesn't that count for something? Aren't there some rules and regulations that affect the use of these buildings? This particular building was constructed as a library in 1905. It was Carnegie's payback to America after he amassed a fortune in his steel mills. The renovation would "gut" a beautiful building which was not wired and plumbed for twenty bedrooms with toilets and showers on the first floor and a mental facility on the second floor. It makes more sense to us that this becomes the home of Snohomish County Museum.

2) It seems the cost of these major changes would be more than the \$1.6 million from the state and \$500K from the county --- looks like the funds would not be sufficient to cover the actual cost of the remodel. And the additional cost would be an annual \$1.2 million for maintenance (building, security and medical help).

----> As an example, we added another room w/1/2 bath (no shower) to our house on Baker Ave in 2000. The cost at that time was \$45K. In today's money that would be about \$75K, a very conservative estimate. For twenty rooms, that equals \$1.5 million. The job would be put out for bid using union laborers. We used a small construction company that did not use union laborers, which helped keep our costs down.

Sent: October 9, 2014

Good morning Ray I am a gc in this state and I have a project in your city located on e marine view dr . Beautiful place but the one thing I noticed beside the drug users and the homeless is the trucks speeding by everyday all day it's really hard to watch . Even more when I see children waiting for the bus to go to school as 12 semi trucks loaded flies by them leaving behind all sorts of poison for them to breath . It's really not my business but maybe divert some how at least 1/2 it's bad . The only way you can understand is to go out there and hang out there all day it's too sad

Sent: October 3, 2014

Mr. Stark asked about the viability of these on September 18th, Part two. Part of the response included how we have downsized fire protection for Low income. If shipping containers were to be utilized, at the stated cost of less than 50,000, what would the cost be for a single container to be utilized as a reservoir for water retention? I can imagine ten or 20 units clustered, even stacked and having one additional unit with the connections for fire suppression. I'm told the Broadway Plaza water suppression system is essentially a flash flood. Fast and effective, is connected directly to the water line, and meets fire codes. There's no reason to jeopardize life when a low-cost solution can be included. Single units can be fitted with smaller tanks if not included in the master water plan.

Sent: October 2, 2014

Subject: Homeless and Income

Body: Excluding individuals released from jail, on their own recognizance--that is excluding those who have been on work release and returning to full-time employment, I'm not hearing what income resources this population is surviving on. Some are disabled, I suspect they have Social Security and a bank to access their funds. Or is the population 100% broke and destitute?

Comment from October 2, 2014 Meeting:

Why is nobody suggesting that the city maximize the benefit of each dollar for housing by going to auction on foreclosed property and/or utilizing the plethora of boarded up homes throughout the city.

On days/times where there are 4 or 5 different meals served is due to the lack of ability for anyone of them to fully serve the number of people who are in need of a meal.

Studies by loss prevention @ corporate stores (Wal-Mart, Safeway) indicate that 27-33% increase in cost or missing inventory occurs when panhandling is outlawed, thus increasing the cost of goods and services for everyone else.

Comment from October 2, 2014 meeting:

What about a sobering center? Seattle has one. They have medical screening. This would alleviate the problem of putting people in jail who simply need to sleep it off. The sobering center in Seattle is jointly funded by the city and county. This could also be a place to point people to services/support.

To supply housing: why not use what we have? Habitat for Humanity has a program in which qualified applicants commit to 400-600 hours of labor, and a house is built/remodeled. Social Service agencies/nonprofits could recommend applicants. Empowering people vs. research based to be effective. There are lots of run-down houses. Revitalizing them provides housing, empowerment, and improvements of neighborhoods. This model could be expanded....for example; construction companies involved could be required to employ/train one homeless person. (Person experiencing homelessness, that is!)

Comment from October 2, 2014 Meeting:

Instead of this continued campaign of attacking the homeless by Police, Business & Homeowners, adding to the list of 1,000,000 places we cannot be, maybe we should ASAP get a location where we can be! It'll save a ton of money in Police efforts, and, clear up the EMC court docketed so they can focus on real crime that endangers people.

Comment from October 2, 2014 Meeting:

I feel it is important to have a open community meeting for merchants and citizens to let them know how they can help-giving money to a person holding a sign is not a solution-there have got to be other ways to help "do not judge" not all homeless are drug addicts. Some of the public want to help!!

Comment from October 2, 2014 Meeting:

By and Large the majority of the funds in Snohomish County/Everett are received from donations of concerned citizens by the Everett Gospel Mission, @Feedhopehere.org, and there are a few issues with this, from my perspective, as a 37 year old homeless man in Everett, In Everett Washington.

1st It is a "private" entity, and the Director is, unfortunately not able to identify with either homelessness, or addiction, thus, he has either lost the ability, or, never had it, to act with compassion that is important to him when concerned citizens donate to EGM> two words come to mind; gospel: meaning good news, as a homeless addict who has struggled with relapse, and a lack of help when asking for it, AND "hope" as the advertisement requesting donations implies, and, if you did a survey of people who currently stay @EGM. And those who have in the past 24 months, hope is NOT a word any of us equate with our mission experience.

2nd When a man is trying to change his life, and fight addiction, and is involved in Sno.Co.Sup.Ct. Adult treatment court, is participating in intensive outpatient treatment 3 days/week and a minimum of 4 self help groups (NA., AA, CR, NHP) I have to call the color line daily and, submit to a UA if my color comes up, so, I am making effort, yet, here @ the beginning of my course of treatment, when I err, and mess up, rather than find a way to help me get back on track, the Director immediately kicks me out, not only am w/o a bed, but I am designated "no services" therefor my hand is forced, I have 2 options, I can go stay at a drug house, we all know what happens there, or, two, I can camp, which, in the city/county is unlawful, and, w/o relief, due to the EPD's focused harassment of the homeless population. I'm pretty much guaranteed another criminal charge x 2 (trespass & unlawful camping).

3rd In a city the size of Everett, forget Snohomish County, as a whole, the EGM is not sufficient in terms of beds available, and, should be increased by the 5th power, and go from 225 beds (men) to a total of 1125. Until there is a place homeless men "can" be instead of only a million places we "cannot be" the issue is homelessness, and all the underlying issues that accompany that will continue to get worse, not better.

My final thought is really quite simple with regards to the EGM & it's operation and the people in charge of that operation, should eliminate the "Director Mens Mission" position, and direct it, by committee, w/ or w/o the participation of the current Director, who is too power hungry, lacks compassion that such a trusted position requires & finally as Director of a "Gospel" mission should treat others as Christ did, as he did not come to save the healthy, but the sick.

Sent: September 30, 2014

I am a member of Spirit of Grace United Methodist Church and have been assisting a homeless person to find a place to live which was nearly impossible even with a section 8 voucher. She was finally successful 8 months later. Here are some of the issues with section 8 vouchers: private landlords who have contracts with HUD use different credit agencies to screen potential renters and have different criteria. The homeless person must pay for these credit reports from their disability checks. Private landlords require separate application fees which the renter must pay without any guarantee for placement. This again uses their disability money. When attempting to clear up past credit report problems potential renters must use their telephone minutes for the various agencies that screen potential section 8 renters, thus having no minutes left for people who need to contact them. I have discovered that although you may have a Section 8 voucher the obstacles for obtaining housing are practically insurmountable. Would it be possible to have a central clearinghouse where landlords list their criteria for renting to Section 8 individuals? The criteria seems to be different for different management companies; for example no dings on credit report for the past 7 years, 2 years, or 1 year. Could landlords/management companies be willing to share applications so that the potential homeless person does not have to pay for so many applications for each potential space? I know this would have to be on a voluntary basis but perhaps surveying the management companies could further elucidate some of these issues and barriers of finding a place. I have more suggestions, but just wanted to get them to you, before the end of the sessions. Thank you for listening and holding these forums. They are essential for the health of the city.

Sent: October 14, 2014

As the military drawdown continues, perhaps tapping into this soon to be looking into reemployment opportunities through Naval Station Everett could be a viable resource. California Highway Patrol, for years, utilized military bases throughout Washington and California to target their vacancies and were very successful. Jerry Gadek, Veteran Service Officer, Snohomish County Human Services

Comment from October 16, 2014 Meeting

Instead of criminalizing panhandlers, why not target them for outreach and link them with services? A good place to employ the ("Santa Monica Model")
What constitutes "aggressive begging"? That term seems somewhat nebulous and open to interpretation at the discretion of LE or property owners. How about "aggressive outreach" instead? (PATH?)
Recovery Café should be supported!

Comment from October 16, 2014 Meeting

There ought to be some oversight/accountability to ensure the city /Mayor takes action on these recommendations.
With these final recommendations be published in the paper and on-line?
Will implementation/results/progress be published on-line?
This group should reconvene with the Mayor, at least every year.

Comment from October 16, 2014 Meeting

Along the category 3-item#50-why can we not encourage the churches to allow homeless men sleep indoors and use the bathrooms a couple nites a week? It would save the city funds to build another site, and each church could assign one or two adult members for security reasons. They could prove they are Christians.

Comment from October 16, 2014 Meeting

I understand the concern about panhandling. I don't like it and can understand the concern about safety at intersections like 41st and Colby. I could support banning panhandling at certain spots. I would start with retail establishments and maybe banks and ATMs but there can be unintended consequences. In Seattle, they realized that Firefighters "fill the Boot" annual-fundraiser would be illegal under the law because they were doing it at 150th and Dravus intersection near Magnolia. Clearly not what they intended! Also if people are poor enough to panhandle, is a fine a deterrent? Would it be so horrible to make it a jail-able offense?

Comment from October 16, 2014 Meeting

I'm surprised that the alcohol impact area proposal has received so much support and evidently not much criticism. I had a letter printed in the Herald in April 2014 on this topic, and I won't rehash all of the points but I question the wisdom of AIAs. I would rather focus on illegal and problem behaviors instead of products. I don't like the idea of making laws that affect everybody, including the law-abiding drinkers for the behavior of a few. When AIAs were proposed in Seattle, small shop owners tried to fight them, since this is a government intervention in their business, and I'm surprised those in Everett haven't done the same.

Comment from October 16, 2014 Meeting

Time frames for the evicted are unfair in that-patrons could use more fair time frames for notices to vacate (2 months) lessening homelessness.

Comment from October 16, 2014 Meeting

Are there homeless individuals who are unable to find a place to live due to their sex offender status. Is there any housing of level 1, 2 or 3 sex offenders? It would seem better/safer to house them and know where they are, rather than have them be homeless and not know where they are.

We need "wet" housing! Alcohol and addiction are a disease not a choice.

Sent: October 28, 2014

As a regular observer (I've missed two meetings) I have been most impressed with the presentations and follow up questions, and discussions. However, I'm hoping that this task force will see that the "homeless" situation is bigger than the downtown core and take steps to expand the concern to include the entire county. I also hope that some new building or remodeling can be done in the Hewitt Ave (south side) block just west of the Xfinity arena (where the fire was). Maybe into low rent apartments?

Comment From October 30, 2014 Meeting

I have had the following employment in Snohomish County: Summer intern City of Everett Personnel Office; Jet Deck Restaurant, Paine Field (3 years) by order of Divorce Court Pro-Term Judge who was inputing wages to me w/in 3 months if I did not obtain paralegal job based upon Edmonds C.C. degree w/in 3 months; James Robert Deal, P>S> (4 1/3 years); The Boeing Company (7 yrs.) As I sit in this October 30 meeting in this room where my son (engineer, DOT) and daughter-in-law;s (pharmacy manager, Everett assisted living pharmacy) wedding reception was held I wonder why there is no bullet point outreach to the companies which bring their customers into our area. Some of these customers bring unsavory habits into our area and though they spread money around for prostitution and drugs, they disproportionately affect the creation of the attractiveness of the drug addict and prostitution culture. This is not good for the community as it tries to save our youth from falling prey to these unsavory things. Thank you.

Comment from October 30, 2014 Meeting

I did not hear about this until reading Muhlsteins's Herald article. I lived as a single parent in Grandview Homes of the Everett Housing Authority after my husband divorced me following his workman's comp injury. My children attended IC/OLPH, Hawthorne, North Middle, Everett High and Archbishop Murphy.

A relative has been in and out of Denne Youth Detention Center for 2 ½ years. He was being raised by his Grandmother, my cousin, and attending schools in Edmonds. The State took custody away from the Grandmother because he hit her with pillows until she fell down. The state did not allow contact between the two and in a court action, a Superior Court Judge found my cousing to be abusive/neglectful, when she had become mentally ill. This relative has been in at least six drug/alcohol inpatient programs from which he has runand gotten involved in committing crimes. The guard told me at Denney Juvenile Justice Center that there are fewer youth prisons in Washington State than previously. The prisons also do not offer drug/alcohol treatment, which they should. The drug/alcohol treatment centers do not have school. This boy is behind in school.

Sent: October 30, 2014

I am playing "catch up" today - I was sick during the first part of the development of the Task Force - so..... hopefully, my comment will not be too late. I don't see any representatives from the various neighborhoods on your Task Force. The issue not only affects businesses, not-for-profits, police, schools, city staff, it also affects the neighborhoods. We receive the "fall out" from the downtown streets. We have people entering our houses, sleeping on our lawns.....frightening our children as they go to school. One of our neighbors will not let his daughter go to QFC store at the corner of Everett and Broadway. My husband and I saw a "drug deal going down" in the QFC parking lot. We see a "spike of the street issue" from the early part of this year. Up until that time, we felt pretty secure walking on Broadway,which has been cleaned up considerably with new businesses on the south and the north. We are proud of all our efforts - so, here we go again. I just retired in May 2014. As I go to exercise each day, I pass the Compass Health facility on Broadway. I understand Compass Health is in charge of a Methadone clinic for some street people here in Everett. There is a large gathering of street

people huddled together each day as they are administered their Methadone. Sometimes I see Department of Correction Officers trying to control some of them. We think the Methadone Clinic has added to the problem of our homeless issue. My husband and I moved to the Riverside Neighborhood in 1998. We became involved with the community from the beginning. We are proud of the people who live here and of all our efforts to help make this a safe community for all concerned. We are afraid that the final recommendation from the Task Force will impinge on our neighborhood without our input.

Sent: November 2, 2014

Subject: Carnegie Building Retrofit

Body: Questions of effective costs and productive impact

Sent: November 7, 2014

Subject: quick fix for nuisance shopping cart problem

Body: Riverside, CA fixed their nuisance shopping cart issue with code seen at <http://www.riversideca.gov/municode/pdf/09/9-58.pdf> Local QFC and Safeway would like, but cannot persuade, corporate to get locking carts. A city ordinance would fix that. Carts are used to illegally take aluminum cans from residential Rubatino recycle bins. Carts facilitate street living, cost grocery stores about \$50 each to collect, and are an eyesore as much as graffiti. Other than returning inmates to their original city, Everett Task Force appears to focus on housing and comfort to those who have no jobs. Those individuals are still in need of income. That default income is often theft. Providing housing without requiring them to do work, of some nature, is, in my opinion, facilitating crime and vagrancy.

Sent: November 5, 2014

The VOA as well as other non-profits in Everett give out vouchers for the homeless to hotels in Everett, specifically N. Everett and the Waits Motel. I have met with the owner of Waits and he is a very good man and has a very nice family but neighbors continually complain about the type of people who frequent this motel. I understand that the owner is trying to make a living and accepts these vouchers from the various non-profits. We also have an empty hotel (The Best Hotel) on Broadway that sits with a fence around it that could be used as well. My thought is in conjunction with a comment I submitted in the summer. The vouchers do not work. This has been a practice for 20 years or more as I had written about before. What if the non-profits worked with these hotels or motels to fix them up to be "nice" and a liveable situation that could be the stepping stone to permanent housing. These hotels and motels lack proper kitchen facilities and are very run down. If the non-profits, who provide vouchers, could partner with these privately owned places they could use funds to update and give owners a consistent income flow. The homeless would be living in better housing which is much safer and give them a sense of "advancement" to a better life and a better living situation. The neighborhoods would be happier since these hotels and motels are improved and the people living there would have a better stake in their living environment.

Comment From November 13, 2014 Meeting

I would highly recommend Judy Hoff, Executive Director to be involved on the Implementation Team. "Queen, It's A New Day" She has a "burning" desire to work with homeless women.

(See www.queenitsanewday.org)

Judy tells me that she went to school with the Mayor.

Sent November 15, 2014

I am addressing this letter to you, Ms. Smith, having faith that you will share it both with the Homeless Task Force and with others who are studying the issue and will be making decisions on the subject of homelessness. I am glad that this subject is being discussed. I hope that all interested parties have been invited to the table. Unfortunately, I believe that there is not one homeless person on the Task Force, although I understand that you have reached far and wide to find agencies and individuals who have histories of working with the homeless.

I am writing primarily to recommend two things: One is to recommend that all involved in this discussion take the time to watch a documentary about the Skid Row area south of downtown Los Angeles. The library has this DVD. It is entitled Lost Angels. For me it was especially interesting to listen to Mollie Lowery talk about a program she initiated called LAMP.

My second recommendation is to read the feature article in the Nov 12-18, 2014, volume 39, number 46 issue of the Seattle Weekly. It is entitled "Stealing from the Homeless" and is written by a forty-seven year old homeless man named Joe Bernstein. What is enlightening to read in his article is the recommendation that something as simple and relatively inexpensive as providing lockers where the homeless can store their belongings can be helpful. Not to deny the complexity of the homeless problem, but I worry about lofty and costly proposals. They can bog down for years before they come to fruition. Housing should be something to aspire to, but immediate help-such as lockers-might be a good bridge to provide some help along the way until the day when housing is available.

I volunteer as an ESL tutor at EvCC. The first question I ask a new student is, "How can I help you?" I try not to assume that I know what kind of help they need. Please continue to ask this question of the people you are trying to help. You might be surprised sometime to hear an answer you did not expect. Sometimes small changes and little improvements make huge differences.

Email Sent November 12, 2014

There are programs for those with a mental or temporary physical disability to get jobs where the state pays a portion of their wages, and employer pays less. My suggestion is such a program (6 months in duration) for those who can show they are Everett residents, who may have either fallen on hard times, or even been in jail. This improves the worker's feelings of self worth, provides them with a work history, and encourages employers to take a chance on an imperfect worker. If you simply house those who are unemployed, you leave them to panhandle, and, having lots of free time, become more dependent on the system and/or get good at stealing for extra income. P.S. I contacted Gina L. Bailey (Broadway Safeway Mgr), Larry

(Rubatino mgr), and Scott Farley (Broadway QFC asst Mgr). All said they were for the locking grocery cart ordinance I previously suggested. All said they would write to you saying so (but that does not mean they did)

Email Sent November 10, 2014

Looks like you (the committee) has just "peeled the onion" of a very difficult problem. In the mixture of the HOMELESS are felons, sex offenders and people who are really having issues of finding jobs in America. People in the neighborhoods do not know how to approach these homeless because of the mix. We have several half-way houses in the Riverside Neighborhood. Several years ago we invited the leaders of these houses into our neighborhood meeting. The only one that could give us a success rate was the Evergreen Manor. The success rate at that time was 70%. We had a feeding program started by a church. They set it up in the neighborhood on Virginia Street (a residential area), which is unlawful according to the Everett Code. This was a weekly program on Sundays. We did not know of the program until neighbors complained of the homeless urinating and defecating on their lawns. Someone complained to us. So, Bob took it upon himself to patrol. The homeless were arriving at about 8:00AM in the mornings. The doors were locked, the feeding program did not start until 11:00AM. Bob patrolled for several Sundays, alerted the police, called the feeding programs managers..... This happened about seven years ago. The feeding program was disbanded - not because the neighbors did not care for the homeless, but because the program was not managed..... Good luck finding funds for this formidable task: 1) Federal funds have dried up - we are still fighting two wars - we have outsourced work to other countries leaving our own people without jobs after the last "melt down" in 2008. 2) State funds have dried up - we sold our state to Boeing to keep the 777-xxx in the Puget Sound. We can't even fund our school system. Please consider our comments.

Email Sent November 5, 2014

Subject: VOA, etc. and N Broadway hotels thought

Body: The VOA as well as other non-profits in Everett give out vouchers for the homeless to hotels in Everett, specifically N. Everett and the Waits Motel. I have met with the owner of Waits and he is a very good man and has a very nice family but neighbors continually complain about the type of people who frequent this motel. I understand that the owner is trying to make a living and accepts these vouchers from the various non-profits. We also have an empty hotel (The Best Hotel) on Broadway that sits with a fence around it that could be used as well. My thought is in conjunction with a comment I submitted in the summer. The vouchers do not work. This has been a practice for 20 years or more as I had written about before. What if the non-profits worked with these hotels or motels to fix them up to be "nice" and a liveable situation that could be the stepping stone to permanent housing. These hotels and motels lack proper kitchen facilities and are very run down. If the non-profits, who provide vouchers, could partner with these privately owned places they could use funds to update and give owners a consistent income flow. The homeless would be living in better housing which is much safer and give them a sense of "advancement" to a better life and a better living situation. The

neighborhoods would be happier since these hotels and motels are improved and the people living there would have a better stake in their living environment.